APPLICATION CLAIM	FIGURES	SPECIFICATION Page:Line
35. An apparatus, comprising:		181:1-3
means for storing a plurality of content records;	2005, 2210, 2411, 2501,	181:3-9
means for accessing the content records;	2408	183:16-25 184:1-3
means for storing a user profile;	2406	184:3-14
means for relating content records with a stored user profile;	2412, 2409	165:7-21 88:21-25 89:1-2 170:1-25 171:1-9
means for presenting to the user the related content records;	2405	165:22-25 166:1-25 167:1-4
means for receiving a user feedback on said relation; and	Figs. 15, 17, 21	68:21-25 69:1-3
means for updating the user profile based on said the feedback.	2402, 1704	107:20-25 108:1-23
36. The apparatus according to claim 35,		
wherein said apparatus is an information access system for automatically presenting users with information items of interest;	Fig. 17, 1703	159:15-23
wherein said content records storing means comprises a computer system containing a database of information items available to be presented to users of the system;	2411	122:6-25 123:1-4 160:22-25 161:1-15
wherein said accessing means comprises at least one access device for enabling users to communicate with the computer system and access any of the items of available information;	2410	128:1-6
wherein said user profile storing means stores a user profile for each user having access to the available items of information;	2406, 1701	107:14-19
wherein said relating means comprises means for ranking the likely degree of interest for each of the available items of information in accordance with a user profile;	2406, 2107, 2111, 2116, 2208	66:23-25 67:1-4 163:12-15 166:14-20 62:4-10 66:23-25
wherein said presenting means presents the items of information to an access	2405	93:12-25

device in order of ranking and enabling a user to retrieve each item;		94:1-10 128:1-6 180:18-25 210:23-25 211:1
wherein said feedback receiving means comprises means for enabling the user to indicate that user's interest in each retrieved item of information; and	1705, 1704	68:21-25 69:1
wherein said updating means comprises means for updating the user's profile in response to indications of interest provided by the user.	1707	69:1-3
37. The apparatus of claim 36, wherein said ranking means ranks the available items of information for a user on the basis of at least one attribute pertaining to each item of information.	2207, 2208, 2409, 2407, 2414, 2413	172:23-25
38. The apparatus of claim 37, wherein said attribute is the contents of the item of information.	2411, 2408, 2501, 2505, Fig. 19	173:12-14
39. The apparatus of claim 36, wherein said ranking means produces a formula which predicts the interest of a user in an item of information on the basis of at least one of a user profile and an attribute related to that item of information.	1704, 1703, 2116, 2208, 2304, 2305	68:2-20
40. A method, comprising:		
storing a plurality of content records;	Figs. 19, 20, 22, 2411, 2413, 2408, 2503	168:1-12
storing a user profile;	1702, 2406	165:7-21
receiving a user request for content records;	Figs. 15, 17, 18, 21, 2305, 2401	63:8-25 170:1-10
relating content records with a stored user profile; and	1506,	66:18-25

	1703, 2412, 2505	
presenting to the user the related content records;	2405, 1703, 1810, 2506	68:12-20
41. The method according to claim 40, for providing information to users of a computer system, wherein:		
said content record storing step comprises storing items of information in an unstructured database within the computer system;	1909, 1910, 2204, 2206, 2304, 2407, 250, 2611, 2607	186:16-23 181:12-25 182:1-4
said user profile storing step comprises determining and storing user profiles for users of the computer system who have access to the items of information;	1701, 1702, 1803, 2509, 1806a	107:14-19
said receiving a request step comprises receiving a request from a user for access to the stored information;	1501, 1602, 1705, 1706, 1811, 2119, 2305, 2401, 2506, 2604	63:8-25 170:1-10
said relating step comprises determining the user's likely degree of interest in items of information stored in said database, in accordance with that user's profile, and ranking the items of information in accordance with their determined degrees of interest; and	1506, 1509, 1703, 2116, 2208, 2412	66:23-25 67:1-4 163:12-15 62:4-10 66:23-25
said presenting step comprises displaying the items of information with an indication of their relative rankings.	1505, 1703, 2116, 2208, 2412	166:14-20

42. The method of claim 41, wherein said items of information are displayed in order of their ranking.		93:12 162:10-13 166:14 186:16-23
43. The method of claim 41, wherein the user profiles and the determined degree of interest in items of information are based upon at least one attribute associated with each item of information.	2106, 2206, 2304, 2411, 2412, 2505, 2607	162:17-25 163:1-20
44. The method of claim 43, wherein said attribute is the content of the item of information.	2411, 2408, 2507, 2505, Fig. 19	172:23-25
45. The method of claim 41, further including the steps of selecting an item of information from those which are displayed, providing an indication of the user's actual interest in the selected item of information, and storing the user's indicated interest.	1707	68:21-25 69:1-3
46. The method of claim 41, wherein the likely degree of interest is determined for all of the items of information stored in said database in response to receipt of a user's request for access.	2208	166:14-16
47. A method, comprising the steps of:		
automatically generating a user profile representing an interest summary based on a history of access to objects; and	2107, 2406	162:25 163:1-3
storing the user profile in memory.	2406	165:14-21
48. The method of claim 47, for providing a user with access to selected ones of a plurality of target objects and sets of target object characteristics that are accessible via an electronic storage media, where said users are connected via user terminals and data communication connections to a target server system which accesses said electronic storage media, wherein:	Fig. 19, 2005, 2210, 2503, 2411 2410, 2408 2410	162:17-25 163:1-20 115:23-25 116:1-4
said automatically generating step generates at least one user target profile interest summary for a user at a user terminal, each of said user target profile interest summary being indicative of ones of said target objects and sets of target object characteristics accessed by said user; and	Fig. 21, 2107	107:14-19 165:7-21 167:13-21
said storing step stores said at least one user target profile interest summary in a	1707	167:2-4

memory.		
49. The method of claim 48, further comprising the steps of:		
enabling said user to access said plurality of target objects and sets of target object characteristics stored on said electronic storage media via said user target profile interest summaries.	Figs. 15, 17, 21, 2305	165:22-25 166:1-9
said step of enabling access comprising:		
correlating said user target profile interest summaries, generated for said user, with target profiles generated for said plurality of target objects and sets of target object characteristics to identify ones of said plurality of target objects and sets of target object characteristics stored on said electronic storage media that are likely to be of interest to said user;	2412	163:12-15
transmitting a list, that identifies at least one of said identified ones of said plurality of target objects and sets of target object characteristics, to said user; and	2405	165:22-25 166:1-7
providing access to a selected one of said plurality of target objects and sets of target object characteristics stored on said electronic storage media in response to said user selecting an item from said list;	Figs. 15, 17	166:7-25 167:1-2
said step of providing access further comprising:		
transmitting data, in response to said user activating said user terminal to identify said selected item on said list, indicative of said user's selection of said selected item from said user terminal to said target server via a one of said data communication connections;	2106, 2118, 2410	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-22
retrieving, in response to receipt of said data from said user terminal, a one of a target object and set of target object characteristics identified by said selected item from said electronic storage media; and	2408, 2411, 2413	184:3-9
transmitting said retrieved one of said target object and set of target object characteristics to said user terminal for display thereon to said user,	2408, 2405	66:15-16 66:19-20 67:1-4 92:10-16
said step of automatically generating comprising:		
automatically updating said user target profile interest summary for said user as a function of said target objects and sets of target object characteristics retrieved by said user.	2116, 2208, 1707	107:14-19 162:25 163:1-3
50. The method of claim 48, wherein said automatically generating step comprises:		
creating a customer profile, said customer profile indicating the respective customer's preferences for data;	1703, 2106, 2116, 2308	162:25 163:1-3
monitoring a history of data objects accessed by the customer; and	2107, 2406	107:14-19
automatically updating the customer profile in accordance with the content profiles accessed by the customer to automatically update the customer profile to represent the customer's preferences.	2107, 2406	167:2-3

51. The method of claim 47, wherein said method is for scheduling customer access to data from a plurality of data sources,	1505	92:3-6 163:17-20
further comprising the step of creating content profiles for each data source of said data, said content profiles indicating the degree of content of said predetermined characteristics in data from each data source;	1909, Fig. 22, 2304, 2407	66:15-25 67:1-4
wherein:		
said customer profile creating step comprises creating at least one customer profile for each eligible recipient of said data, said customer profile indicating the customer's preferences for data having predetermined characteristics;	1702, 1703	107:14-19
said monitoring step comprises monitoring which data sources are actually accessed by each recipient; and	1707, 2107	162:25 163:1-3
said updating step comprises updating, without input from each customer, each customer profile in accordance with the content profiles of the data sources actually accessed by that customer to automatically update each customer's actual preferences for said predetermined characteristics.	Figs. 21, 22	167:2-3 165:14-19
52. The method of claim 47, wherein said method is for scheduling customer access to video programs,	1505	92:10-16
further comprising the step of creating content profiles for each video program available for viewing, said content profiles indicating the degree of content of said predetermined characteristics in each video program;	1909, 2206, 2304, 2407, 2505, 2507	53:21-25 54:1-2 66:21-25
wherein:		
said customer profile creating step comprises creating at least one customer profile for each customer of said video programs, said customer profile indicating the customer's preferences for predetermined characteristics of the video programs;	1702	107:14-19 88:23-25 89:1-2
said monitoring step comprises monitoring which video programs are actually viewed by each customer; and	1707, 2107	68:21-25 69:1-3 92:16-22 199:19-22 165:14-19
said updating step comprises updating, without input from each customer, each customer profile in accordance with the content profiles of the video programs actually viewed by that customer to automatically update each customer's actual preferences for said predetermined characteristics.	Figs. 21, 22	107:14-19 162:25 163:1-3
53. The method of claim 52, comprising the further steps of receiving customer identity information and determining from said customer identity information which customer profile to update in said updating step.	1701	107:14-19 165:7-21 88:21-25 170:1-25 171:1-9
54. The method of claim 47, wherein said method is for scheduling customer access	1505	88:21-25

to data from a plurality of data sources, wherein:		89:1-2
said customer profile creating step comprises creating a customer profile for each customer of said plurality of data sources, said customer profile indicating said customer's preferences for predetermined characteristics of the data sources;	2502, 1909, Fig. 22, 2304, 2407	107:14-19
said monitoring step comprises monitoring which data sources are actually accessed by each customer; and	1707, 2107	107:20-25 108:1
said updating step comprises updating each customer profile to reflect the frequency of selection of the data sources by customers with customer profiles substantially similar to said each customer profile.	Figs. 21, 22	89:2-11 132:20-25 165:22-25 106:14-16 85:1-2 95:2-4
55. An apparatus for performing the method of claim 47.	Fig. 24	162:17-25 163:1-20 115:23-25 116:1-4
56. The apparatus according to claim 55, for providing a user with access to selected ones of a plurality of target objects and sets of target object characteristics that are accessible via an electronic storage media, where said users are connected via user terminals and data communication connections to a target server system which accesses said electronic storage media, comprising:	Fig. 19, 2005, 2210, 2503 2411 2410, 2408 2410	162:17-25 163:1-20 115:23-25 116:1-4
means for automatically generating at least one user target profile interest summary for a user at a user terminal, each of said user target profile interest summaries being indicative of ones of said target objects and sets of target object characteristics accessed by said user; and	Figs. 15, 17, 21, 2305	162:25 163:1-3
means for storing said at least one user target profile interest summary in a memory.	1707	165:14-21
57. The apparatus of claim 56, further comprising:		
means for enabling said user to access said plurality of target objects and sets of target object characteristics stored on said electronic storage media via said user target profile interest summaries;	Figs. 15, 17, 21, 2305	162:17-25 163:1-20 115:23-25 116:1-4 181:12-25

said means for enabling access comprising:		
means for correlating said user target profile interest summaries, generated for said user, with target profiles generated for said plurality of target objects and sets of target object characteristics to identify ones of said plurality of target objects and sets of target object characteristics stored on said electronic storage media that are likely to be of interest to said user;	2412	163:12-15
means for transmitting a list, that identifies at least one of said identified ones of said plurality of target objects and sets of target object characteristics, to said user; and	2405	165:22-25 166:1-7
means for providing access to a selected one of said plurality of target objects and sets of target object characteristics stored on said electronic storage media in response to said user selecting an item from said list.	Figs. 15, 17	166:7-25 167:1-2
said means for providing access comprising:		
means for transmitting data, in response to said user activating said user terminal to identify said selected item on said list, indicative of said user's selection of said selected item from said user terminal to said target server via a one of said data communication connections;	2106, 2118, 2410	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-22
means for retrieving, in response to receipt of said data from said user terminal, a target object identified by said selected item from said electronic storage media; and	2408, 2411, 2413	184:3-9
means for transmitting said retrieved target object to said user terminal for display thereon to said user;	2408, 2405	66:15-16 66:19-20 67:1-4 92:10-16
said means for automatically generating comprising:		
means for automatically updating said user target profile interest summary for said user as a function of said target objects and sets of target object characteristics retrieved by said user.	2116, 2208, 1707	107:14-19 162:25 163:1-3
58. A system, comprising:		
a customer profile, said customer profile indicating the respective customer's preferences for data;	1702, Fig. 21, 2406	107:14-19 162:25 163:1-3
means for monitoring a history of data objects accessed by the customer; and	2107, 2406	107:14-19
means for automatically updating the customer profile in accordance with the content profiles accessed by the customer to automatically update the customer profile to represent the customer's preferences.	1707	167:2-3
59. The system according to claim 58, for scheduling customer access to data from a plurality of data sources, further comprising:	1505	92:3-6 163:17-20
content profiles for each data source of said data, said content profiles indicating the degree of content of said predetermined characteristics in data from each data source;	1090, Fig. 22, 2304, 2407	66:15-25 67:1-4
wherein:		

at least one customer profile for each eligible recipient of said data is provided, said customer profile indicating the customer's preferences for data having predetermined characteristics;	1702, 1703	107:14-19
said monitoring means monitors which data sources are actually accessed by each recipient; and	1707, 2107	162:25 163:1-3
said updating means updates, without input from each customer, each customer profile in accordance with the content profiles of the data sources actually accessed by that customer to automatically update each customer's actual preferences for said predetermined characteristics.	Figs. 21, 22	167:2-3 165:14-19
60. The system according to claim 58, for scheduling customer access to video programs received from a video head end, further comprising:	1505	92:10-16
content profiles for each video program available for viewing, said content profiles indicating the degree of content of said predetermined characteristics in each video program;	1909, 2206, 2304, 2407, 2505, 2507	53:21-25 54:1-2 66:21-25
wherein:		
at least one customer profile for each customer of said video programs is provided, said customer profile indicating the customer's preferences for predetermined characteristics of the video programs;	1702	107:14-19 88:23-25 89:1-2
said means for monitoring monitors which video programs are actually viewed by each customer; and	1707, 2107	68:21-25 69:1-3 92:16-22 199:19-22 165:14-19
said means for updating updates, without input from each customer, each customer profile in accordance with the content profiles of the video programs actually viewed by that customer to automatically update each customer's actual preferences for said predetermined characteristics.	Figs. 21, 22	107:14-19 162:25 163:1-3
61. The system as in claim 60, further comprising:		
means for transmitting said content profiles to each customer along with electronic program guide data for upcoming television viewing periods.	2411, 2410	163:9-12
62. The system as in claim 60, further comprising means for inputting customer identity information and for determining from said customer identity information which customer profile to update with said updating means.	1701, 1707	107:14-19 165:7-21 88:21-25 170:1-25 171:1-9
63. The system according to claim 60, for scheduling customer access to data provided by a plurality of data sources, further comprising:	1505	92:3-6 163:17-20
means for creating a customer profile for each customer of said plurality of data sources, said customer profile indicating said customer's preferences for	2502, 1909,	107:14-19

predetermined characteristics of the data sources;	Fig. 22, 2304, 2407	
said monitoring means monitors which data sources are actually accessed by each customer; and	1707, 2107	107:20-25 108:1
said updating means updates each customer profile to reflect the frequency of selection of the data sources by customers with customer profiles substantially similar to said each customer profile.	Figs. 21, 22	89:2-11 132:20-25 165:22-25 106:14-16 85:1-2 95:2-4
64. The system according to claim 58, being a multimedia terminal for receiving data from a plurality of data sources, further comprising:	1505	120:14-17 200:20-25 201:1-3
means for storing at least one customer profile indicating a customer's preferences for data having predetermined characteristics;	1702, 1703	162:25 163:1-3
means for storing content profiles for each data source of said data, said content profiles indicating the degree of content of said predetermined characteristics in data from each data source;	1909, Fig. 22, 2304, 2407	66:15-25 67:1-4
means for inputting recipient identity information;	1701	165:7-21 88:21-25 170:1-25 171:1-9
means for selecting different customer profiles which correspond to said recipient identity information in accordance with the time of day and day of the week;	1702	160:1-6 160:7-17
processing means for relating said selected customer profiles with the content profiles for the data available from each data source to the customer at a particular time and for determining a subset of data having content profiles which most closely match said selected customer profile; and	Figs. 17, 24, 25, 26	165:7-21 88:21-25 170:1-25 171:1-9 160:7-15
a display guide for presenting said subset of data to said customer for selection.	2411, 2402, 2405	160:7-15 163:9-12
65. The system as in claim 64, further comprising means for storing an electronic program guide, wherein said display guide highlights programs within said electronic program guide which correspond to said subset of data.	2411, 1502	160:7-10 86:22-25 87:1
66. A system, comprising:		
means for receiving subscriber specific data;	1701, 1702	107:14-19 165:7-21 88:21-25 170:1-25 171:1-9

means for receiving program control information; and	Figs. 15, 17, 18, 2411	163:9-12 160:7-15
program selection means, operably connected to the storing means and the receiving means, for selecting one or more programs using the user subscriber specific information and the program control information.	2502, 2402	92:10-16 68:21-25 69:1-3
67. The system according to claim 66, being a set top terminal used by subscribers of a television program delivery system for suggesting programs to subscribers using program control information containing program description data, and subscriber specific data, the set top terminal comprising:	2411, 2406, Fig. 25	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-22
said subscriber specific data receiving means being means for gathering subscriber specific data to be used in selecting programs;	Figs. 17, 18, 21, 2305, 2401	88:21-25 66:23-25 67:1-4
means, connected to the gathering means, for storing the subscriber specific data;	2406	107:14-19 165:7-21 88:21-25 170:1-25 171:1-9
said program control information receiving means being means for receiving the program control information containing the program description data;	2410, 2411	163:9-12 160:7-15
said program selection means, being operably connected to the storing means and the means for receiving program control information, for selecting one or more programs using a subscriber's programming preferences and the program control information, comprising:	2401	92:10-16 68:21-25 69:1-3
a processor, wherein the subscriber programming preferences are generated from the subscriber specific data; and	2402	165:7-21 88:21-25 170:1-25 171:1-9
means, operably connected to the program selection means, for suggesting the selected programs to the subscriber.	2405	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-22
68. The system of claim 67, wherein:		
the set top terminal receives program signals and the program selection means resides within a set top terminal;	2501, 2505	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-22
the set top terminal receives menu details from the television program delivery system, a display is used, and wherein the means for gathering subscriber specific data comprises:	2410, 2411, 2405	163:9-12 160:7-21 160:22
a memory device for storing received menu details,	2413	163:19-20
the stored menu details include a cursor overlay, the means for generating menu screens comprises a means for generating the cursor overlay, the generated menu	2401, 2405	85:1-4 85:22-25

screens are displayed on the display, and wherein the subscriber interface means comprises a means for moving the generated cursor overlay on the displayed menu screens;		97:8-9
a means, connected to the memory device, for generating menu screens by integrating the program control information with the stored menu details;	2402, 2405	81:5-14 167:13-25
a means, connected to the generating means, for eliciting subscriber responses using the generated menu screens;	2405, 2401, Figs. 15, 17	59:16-20 65:3-25
a subscriber interface means for entering subscriber responses;	2401, 2506	66:1-14
the set top terminal further comprising a means for generating a signal identifying a selected program's location on the received program signal.	2505, 2504	168:1-5
69. The system according to claim 66, being a set top terminal used by subscribers of a television program delivery system for suggesting programs to subscribers using program control information containing program description data, and subscriber specific data indicative of a subscriber's programming preferences, wherein the set top terminal receives menu details from the television program delivery system, the set top terminal comprising:	2411, 2406, Fig. 25	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-22 160:7-17
said subscriber specific receiving means being means for gathering the subscriber specific data indicative of subscriber preferences to be used in selecting programs, wherein the means for gathering subscriber specific data comprises:	Figs. 15, 17, 21, 2406	165:7-21 88:21-25 170:1-25 171:1-9
a first means for storing received menu details;	2413	163:19-20
a means for generating menu screens by integrating the program control information with the stored menu details;	2402	81:5-14 167:13-25
a display, connected to the generating means, wherein menu screens to elicit subscriber responses are displayed; and	2405	85:1-4 128:1-6
a subscriber interface means for entering subscriber responses to displayed menu screens;	2401	59:16-20 65:3-25
a second means, connected to the gathering means, for storing the subscriber specific data;	2406, 2413	184:3-14
said receiving means being means for receiving the program control information comprising program description data;	2411, 2410	163:9-12 160:7-21
said program selection means being operably connected to the second storing means and the receiving means, for selecting one or more programs using the subscriber specific data and program control information whereby the selected programs correspond to the subscriber's programming preferences; and	2406, 2402	68:21-25 69:1-3 92:10-16
wherein the display is used to suggest the selected programs to the subscriber.	2405, 1506, 1703	92:10-22 160:22-25 161:1-15
70. The set top terminal of claim 69, wherein the stored menu details include a cursor overlay and the means for generating menu screens comprises a means for generating the cursor overlay, and wherein the subscriber interface means	2405	85:1-4 85:22-25 97:8-9

comprises a means for moving the generated cursor overlay on the displayed menu screens.		
71. The system according to claim 66, being a set top terminal used by subscribers of a television program delivery system for suggesting programs to subscribers using program control information containing program description data, and subscriber specific data indicative of a subscriber's programming preferences, the set top terminal comprising:	2411, 2406, Fig. 25	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-22
said subscriber specific data receiving means being means for gathering the subscriber specific data indicative of subscriber preferences to be used in selecting programs;	Figs. 15, 17, 21, 2406	88:21-25 66:23-25 67:1-4
means, connected to the gathering means, for storing the subscriber specific data;	2406, 2413	107:14-19 165:7-21 88:21-25 170:1-25 171:1-9
said receiving means being means for receiving the program control information comprising program description data;	2411, 2410	66:23-25 67:1-4
said program selection means being operably connected to the storing means and the receiving means, for selecting one or more programs using the subscriber specific data and program control information whereby the selected programs correspond to the subscriber's programming preferences, wherein the program selection means comprises:	2406, 2402	92:10-16 68:21-25 69:1-3
a means for matching the subscriber specific data to a program described by the program control information; and	2412, 1506, 1703	165:7-21 88:21-25 170:1-25 171:1-9
wherein the set top terminal further comprises a means for tuning to the matched program; and	2502	165:7-21 88:21-25 170:1-25 171:1-9
a means, operably connected to the program selection means, for displaying for suggesting the selected programs to the subscriber.	2507, 2508	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-22 165:22-25 166:1-25 167:1-4
72. The system according to claim 66, being a set top terminal used by subscribers of a television program delivery system for suggesting programs to subscribers using program control information containing program description data, and subscriber specific data indicative of a subscriber's programming preferences, wherein the set top terminal receives program signals, the set top terminal comprising:	2411, 2406, Fig. 25	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-22
said subscriber specific receiving means being means for gathering the subscriber	Figs.	88:21-25

specific data indicative of subscriber preferences to be used in selecting programs;	15, 17, 21, 2406	66:23-25 67:1-4
means, connected to the gathering means, for storing the subscriber specific data;	2406, 2413	107:14-19 165:7-21 88:21-25 170:1-25 171:1-9
said receiving means being means for receiving the program control information comprising program description data;	2411, 2410	66:23-25 67:1-4
said program selection means being operably connected to the storing means and the receiving means, for selecting one or more programs using the subscriber specific data and program control information whereby the selected programs correspond to the subscriber's programming preferences;	2406, 2402	92:10-16 68:21-25 69:1-3
a means, operably connected to the program selection means, for displaying for suggesting the selected programs to the subscriber; and	2405, 1506, 1703	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-22
a means for generating a signal identifying a selected program's location on the received program signal.	2505, 2504	168:1-5
73. The system according to claim 66, being a set top terminal used by subscribers of a television program delivery system for suggesting programs to subscribers using program control information containing menu screen details and program description data, and a subscriber's programming preferences, by searching program abstracts stored in a database for programs which correlate to key words mapped from one or more subscriber responses to search criteria containing a plurality of selectable entries on one or more menu screens, further comprising:	2411, 2406, Fig. 25	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-22 160:7-17
a means for storing the program abstracts in a database;	2411, 2410, 2407, 2413	163:3-20
a memory means, connected to the receiving means, for storing the menu screen details;	2413	81:5-14 167:13-25
means, connected to the memory means for storing menu screen details, for generating menu screens using the stored menu screen details, wherein the menu screens are generated by integrating the program control information with the stored menu screen details, and wherein the menu screens list search criteria comprising the plurality of selectable entries;	2402, 2405	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-22 160:7-17
a display wherein the generated menu screens are displayed;	2405	66:15-16 66:19-20 67:1-4 92:10-16
said subscriber specific data receiving means being:		
a subscriber interface means for entering subscriber responses to the plurality of selectable entries on the menu screens;	2401, 2405	66:1-14
a means, connected to the subscriber interface means, for mapping the subscriber	2402	122:6-25

responses into the key words;		123:1-4 54:5-17
a means, connected to the mapping means, for searching the program abstract database for programs consisting of one or more of the key words;	2406, 2402	122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17
said program selection means being operably connected to the receiving means and searching means, for selecting one or more programs, wherein programs are selected using the search of the searching means; and	2502	166:7-25 167:1-2
wherein the display is used to suggest the selected programs to the subscriber.	Figs. 15, 17, 2405	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-22
74. The system of claim 73, wherein:		
program abstracts are included in the received program control information, and wherein the set top terminal further comprises a means connected to the receiving means, for reprogramming the means for storing the program abstracts to include the received program abstracts;	2411, 2410, 2407, 2413, 2402,	163:3-20
the subscriber interface means comprises a means for interpreting the subscriber responses and a means for storing the subscriber responses; and	2401, 2402, 2406	59:16-20 65:3-25
the stored menu screen details include a cursor overlay and the means for generating menu screens comprises a means for generating the cursor overlay and wherein the subscriber interface means comprises a means for moving the generated cursor overlay on the displayed menu screens.	2405	85:1-4 85:22-25 97:8-9
75. The system according to claim 66, being a set top terminal used by subscribers of a television program delivery system for suggesting programs through the use of program control information and program watched data indicative of a subscriber's most watched programs, the set top terminal further comprising:	2411, 2406, Fig. 25	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-22 160:7-17
said means for receiving subscriber specific data being means for gathering the program watched data;	2401	165:7-21 88:21-25 89:1-2 170:1-25 171:1-9
a memory means for storing the gathered program watched data;	2406	165:7-21 88:21-25 89:1-2
said program selection means being operably connected to the memory means and the receiving means, for selecting a program using the stored program watched data and the received program control information; and	2502, 2402	92:10-16 68:21-25 69:1-3
a means, operably connected to the program selection means, for displaying the selected program.	2507, 2508	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-22 165:22-25 166:7-25

		167:1-4
76. The system according to claim 66, being a set top terminal used by subscribers of a television program delivery system for suggesting programs to subscribers using program control information and channel watched data indicative of a subscriber's favorite channels, the set top terminal comprising:	2411, 2406, Fig. 25	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-22
said means for receiving subscriber specific data comprising means for gathering the channel watched data;	1701, 1702, 2506	165:7-21 88:21-25 89:1-2 170:1-25 171:1-9
a memory means for storing the gathered channel watched data;	2406	165:7-21 88:21-25
said program selection means comprising:		
a processing means, operably connected to the memory means and the receiving means, for determining suggested favorite channels, comprising:	Figs. 15, 17, 2402	92:10-16 68:21-25 69:1-3
a channel selection means for selecting a plurality of channels using the stored channel watched data; and	2502	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-22
means to generate a signal identifying the selected channels; and	2402	170:1-25 171:1-9
a means, operably connected to the processing means, for displaying a representation of the selected channels.	2404	93:12-13 162:10-13 166:14-16 186:16-23
77. The system of claim 66, being a set top terminal used by subscribers of a television program delivery system for suggesting programs to subscribers using program control information containing program description data, by searching program abstracts for programs which correlate to key words mapped from one or more subscriber responses to a plurality of selectable entries presented on a display, further comprising:	2411, 2406, Fig. 25	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-22
a means for storing the program abstracts in a database;	2413	163:3-20
a means for presenting the plurality of selectable entries to the subscriber using the display;	2405	66:1-14
said means for receiving subscriber specific data comprising a subscriber interface means for entering subscriber responses to the plurality of selectable entries;	2401	92:10-16 68:21-25 69:1-3
a means, connected to the subscriber interface means, for mapping the subscriber responses into the key words;	2402	122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17
a means, connected to the mapping means and storing means, for searching the program abstract database for programs consisting of one or more of the key words;	2406, 2402	122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17
said program selection means being operably connected to the receiving means and	2502	92:10-16

searching means, for selecting one or more programs, wherein programs are selected using the search of the searching means; and		68:21-25 69:1-3
means, connected to the program selection means, for suggesting the selected programs to the subscriber using the display.	2402, 2405	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-22
78. The system of claim 77, wherein:		
program abstracts are included in the received program control information, and wherein the set top terminal further comprises a means, connected to the receiving means, for reprogramming the means for storing the program abstracts to include the received program abstracts;	2411, 2410, 1909, 2402, 2413	163:3-20 92:20-22
the program control information further contains menu screen details and the selectable entries are displayed on one or more menu screens by the presenting means, the set top terminal further comprising:	2405	81:5-14 167:13-25 93:12-25 94:1-10
a memory means, connected to the receiving means, for storing the menu screen details; and	2413	81:5-14 167:13-25
a means, connected to the memory means and the presenting means, for generating menu screens using the stored menu screen details, wherein the menu screens are generated by integrating the program control information with the stored menu screen details, and wherein the generated menu screens list search criteria comprising the plurality of selectable entries; and	2402, 2407, 2405	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-22 160:7-17
the stored menu screen details include a cursor overlay and the means for generating menu screens comprises a means for generating the cursor overlay, and wherein the subscriber interface means comprises a means for moving the generated cursor overlay on the displayed menu screens.	2405	85:1-4 85:22-25 97:8-9
79. The system of claim 66, being a set top terminal used by subscribers of a television program delivery system for suggesting programs to subscribers using program control information containing scheduled program description data, the set top terminal further comprising:	2411, 2406, Fig. 25	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23 160:7-17
a means for creating personal profile information;	Figs. 15, 17, 21, 24	165:7-21 88:21-25 89:1-2 170:1-25 171:1-9
a means, connected to the creating means, for storing the personal profile information;	2406	184:3-14
said means for receiving program control information being means for receiving the program control information comprising the scheduled program description data;	2411, 2410	163:3-20
said program selection means being means, connected to the storing means and receiving means, for selecting at least one program for suggestion to the viewer, comprising:	2402	166:7-25 167:1-2
a means for transforming the personal profile information into preferred program indicators, wherein a preferred program indicator comprises a program category	2412, 2106,	167:5-12 167:13-25

with each program category having a weighted value;	2208	108:24-25 109:1-25 110:1-11
a means for matching the preferred program indicators with the scheduled program description data, wherein each scheduled program is assigned a weighted value based on at least one associated program category;	2412, 2208	165:7-21 88:21-25 89:1-2 170:1-25 171:1-9
a means for prioritizing the scheduled programs from highest weighted value programs to lowest weighted value programs; and	2208	66:23-25 67:1-4 163:12-15 166:14-20 62:4-10 66:23-25
a means for indicating one or more programs meeting a predetermined weight related threshold, wherein all other programs are excluded from program suggestion; and		62:4-10
means, operably connected to the program selection means, for displaying for suggesting the selected programs to the subscriber.	2405	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-22 165:22-25 166:1-25 167:1-4
80. The system of claim 66, being a set top terminal used by subscribers of a television program delivery system for suggesting programs to subscribers using program control information containing scheduled program description data, the set top terminal further comprising:	2411, 2406, Fig. 25	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-22
said means for receiving subscriber specific data being means for gathering program watched data;	2401, 2402, 2406	88:21-25 89:1-2 66:23-25 67:1-4
a means, connected to the gathering means, for storing the program watched data;	2406	107:14-19 165:7-21 88:21-25 89:1-2 170:1-25 171:1-9
said means for receiving program control information being means for receiving the program control information comprising the scheduled program description data;	2411, 2410	66:23-25 67:1-4
said program selection means being means, connected to the storing means and receiving means, for selecting at least one program for suggestion to the viewer, comprising:	Figs. 15, 17, 18, 2406, 2412	92:10-16 68:21-25 69:1-3
a means for transforming the program watched data into preferred program	2406	167:5-12

indicators, wherein a program indicator comprises a program category with each program category having a weighted value;		167:13-25 108:24-25 109:1-25 110:1-11
a means for comparing the preferred program indicators with the scheduled program description data, wherein each scheduled program is assigned a weighted value based on at least one associated program category;	2412, 2106, 2208	165:7-21 88:21-25 89:1-2 170:1-25 171:1-9
a means for prioritizing the scheduled programs from highest weighted value programs to lowest weighted value programs; and	2116, 2208	66:23-25 67:1-4 163:12-15 166:14-20 62:4-10 66:23-25
a means for indicating one or more programs meeting a predetermined weight threshold, wherein all other programs are excluded from program suggestion; and		62:4-10
means, operably connected to the program selection means, for displaying for suggesting the selected programs to the subscriber.	2405	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23 165:22-25 166:1-25 167:1-4
81. The system of claim 67, wherein the program selection means resides within a network controller.		192:13-25 193:1-5
82. The system according to claim 66, being a terminal for program suggestion using user preference data concerning user preferences and program control information concerning available programs, comprising:		90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23
said means for receiving subscriber specific data comprising means for gathering the user preference data;	Figs. 15, 17, 18, 21, 2406	107:14-19 165:7-21 88:21-25 89:1-2 170:1-25 171:1-9
a means, connected to the gathering means, for storing the gathered user preference data;	2406	184:3-14
said means for receiving program control information comprising means for accessing the program control information;	2411, 2410	163:9-12 160:7-15
said program selection means being means, connected to the storing means and accessing means, for selecting one or more programs using a subscriber's programming preferences and the program control information, comprising:	2412, 2402	92:10-16 68:21-25 69:1-3
a processor, wherein the subscriber programming preferences are generated from the user preference data; and	2402, 2406	162:17-25 163:1-20
a means, connected to the selecting means, for suggesting the selected programs to	2405	90:23-25

the user.		91:1-25 92:1-23
83. The system of claim 66, being a program suggestion system for suggesting programs to subscribers of a television program delivery system by using program control information containing program description data and by searching program abstracts stored in a database at a network controller, the suggested programs resulting from a search of the program abstracts for key words sent to the network controller from a set top terminal, wherein the key words are mapped from one or more subscriber responses to a plurality of selectable entries at the set top terminal, the system comprising:	2411, 2406, Fig. 25	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23 160:7-17
a set top terminal comprising:		
a means for receiving programs;	2408	163:3-6
a means for presenting the plurality of selectable entries to the subscriber;	2405	66:1-14
said means for receiving subscriber specific data being a subscriber interface means for entering subscriber responses to the plurality of selectable entries; and	Figs. 15, 17, 21, 2405	92:10-16 68:21-25 69:1-3
a means, connected to the subscriber interface means, for mapping the subscriber responses into the key words; and	2402	122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17
a network controller, networked to the set top terminal, comprising:		193:3-5
said means for receiving the program control information;	2410, 2411	163:9-12 160:7-15
a means for storing the program abstracts in a data base;	2413	163:3-20
a means for gathering the key words;	2409	122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17
said program selection means being operably connected to the receiving means, gathering means and storing means, for selecting one or more programs for suggestion to the subscriber, comprising:	2402	90:23-25 91:1-25 91:1-23
a means for searching the program abstract data base for program abstracts consisting of one or more key words; and	2407, 2402	122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17
a means for distributing the selected programs to the set top terminal.	2404	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23
84. The system of claim 66, being an apparatus for suggesting programs to subscribers using program control information containing program description data, and subscriber specific data, the apparatus comprising:	Figs. 15, 17, 21, 2405	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23
said means for receiving subscriber specific data being means for gathering the subscriber specific data to be used in selecting programs;	2401	107:14-19 165:7-21 88:21-25 89:1-2

		170:1-25 171:1-9
a means, connected to the gathering means, for storing the subscriber specific data; and	2406	184:3-14
said program selection means being operably connected to the storing means and the receiving means, for selecting one or more programs using a subscriber's programming preferences and the program control information, comprising:	2402	92:10-16 68:21-25 69:1-3
a processor, wherein the subscriber programming preferences are generated from the subscriber specific data.	2402, 2406, 2412	165:7-21 88:21-25 89:1-2 170:1-25 171:1-9
85. The system according to claim 66, being an apparatus used by subscribers of a television program delivery system for suggesting programs to subscribers using program control information containing program description data, and subscriber specific data, the apparatus further comprising:	Figs. 15, 17, 21, 2405	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23 160:7-17
said means for receiving subscriber specific data being a remote control, wherein the subscriber specific data is obtained to be used in selecting programs;	2401	162:17-25 196:13-25 197:1-12
a memory, operably connected to the remote control, wherein the subscriber specific data is stored;	2406	196:13-25 197:1-12
said means for receiving program control information being a demodulator, wherein the program control information containing the program description data is received;	2411, 2410, 2006, 2201, 2401, 2414	163:3-20 81:9-11 160:17-21 163:9-12 170:7-10
said program selection means being a central processing unit, operably connected to the memory and the demodulator, wherein programs are selected using a subscriber's programming preferences and the program control information, and wherein the subscriber programming preferences are generated from the subscriber specific data; and	2402, 2406, 2412	175:8-11 183:8-25 184:1-2 162:25 163:1-3 107:14-19 162:25 163:1-3 81:9-11 160:17-21 163:9-12 170:7-10
a display, operably connected to the processor, wherein the selected programs are suggested to the subscriber on the display.	2405	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23
86. The system of claim 66, being an apparatus used by subscribers of a television program delivery system for suggesting programs through the use of program	Figs. 15, 17,	90:23-25 91:1-25

control information and program watched data indicative of a subscriber's most watched programs, the apparatus comprising:	21, 2405	92:1-23
said means for receiving program control information being a demodulator, wherein the program control information is received;	2411, 2410, 2006, 2201, 2401, 2414	163:3-20 81:9-11 160:17-21 163:9-12 170:7-10
said means for receiving subscriber specific data being a remote control interface, wherein the program watched data is gathered;	2401	165:7-21 88:21-25 89:1-2 170:1-25 171:1-9 196:13-25 197:1-12
a memory, wherein the gathered program watched data is stored;	2406	88:21-25 89:1-2
said program selection means being a processor, operably connected to the memory and the demodulator, wherein a program is selected using the stored program watched data and the received program control information;	2402	92:10-16 68:21-25 69:1-3
a display, operably connected to the processor, for displaying the selected program.	2404	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23 165:22-25 166:1-25 167:1-4
87. The system of claim 66, being an apparatus used by subscribers of a television program delivery system for suggesting programs to subscribers using program control information containing program description data, by searching program abstracts for programs which correlate to key words mapped from one or more subscriber responses to a plurality of selectable entries presented on a display, the apparatus further comprising:	Figs. 15, 17, 21, 2405	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23
said means for receiving program control information being a demodulator, wherein the program control information is demodulated;	2411, 2410, 2006, 2201, 2401, 2414	81:9-11 160:17-21 163:9-12 170:7-10
a memory, connected to the demodulator, wherein the program abstracts are stored;	2413	163:19-20 168:12-14 199:7-12
a combiner, wherein the plurality of selectable entries are presented to the subscriber using the display;	2402, 2405	93:12-13 162:10-13 166:14-16

		186:16-23
said means for receiving subscriber specific data being a subscriber interface, wherein subscriber responses to the plurality of selectable entries are entered;	2401	59:16-20 65:3-25
logic circuitry, connected to the subscriber interface, wherein the subscriber responses are mapped into the key words;	2402, 2406	122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17
said program selection means being a processor, operably connected to the logic circuitry and the memory, wherein the stored program abstracts are searched for programs consisting of one or more of the key words, and wherein one or more programs are selected using the search; and	2402	94:2-4 122:6-25 123:1-4
wherein the selected programs are suggested to the subscriber using the display.	2405	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23
88. The system according to claim 66, being a network controller, adapted for remotely controlling a plurality of set top terminals in a television program delivery system, for suggesting programs to subscribers by making program suggestions using subscriber specific data and program control information received from a remotely located source containing program description data, wherein the suggested programs are transmitted to the set top terminal, the network controller comprising:	Figs. 15, 17, 21, 2405	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23
said means for receiving program control information comprising means for receiving the program control information containing program description data;	2411, 2410	163:9-12 160:7-15
said means for receiving subscriber specific data comprising means for gathering the subscriber specific data from a set top terminal;	2401	88:21-25 89:1-2 66:23-25 67:1-4
a means, connected to the gathering means, for storing the subscriber specific data;	2406	107:14-19 165:7-21 88:21-25 89:1-2 170:1-25 171:1-9
said program selection means being means, operably connected to the receiving means and the storing means, for suggesting one or more programs using a subscriber's programming preferences and the received program control information, comprising:	Figs. 15, 17, 2406, 2412	68:21-25 69:1-3 92:10-16
a processor, wherein the subscriber programming preferences are generated from the subscriber specific data; and	2402	165:7-21 88:21-25 89:1-2 170:1-25 171:1-9
a means, connected to the suggesting means, for transmitting the suggested programs to the set top terminal for presentation to the subscriber.	2405	165:22-25 166:1-9 9:15-21 175:8-17

89. The system of claim 88, wherein key words are used in searching program abstracts to assist in suggesting programs, and wherein the network controller further comprises:	2402	122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17
a means for storing program abstracts; and	2413	163:3-20
wherein the means for suggesting comprises a means for searching the stored program abstracts for one or more programs consisting of one or more of the key words.	2407, 2412, 2406	122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17 54:12-17
90. The system according to claim 66, being a network controller, adapted for remotely controlling a plurality of set top terminals in a television program delivery system, for suggesting programs to subscribers by making program suggestions using subscriber specific data indicative of a subscriber's programming preferences received from a set top terminal, program control information received from a remotely located source containing program description data, and program abstracts with key words, wherein the suggested programs are transmitted to the set top terminal, the network controller comprising:	Figs. 15, 17, 21, 2405	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23
said means for receiving program control information being means for receiving the program control information containing program description data;	2411, 2410	163:9-12 160:7-15
said means for receiving subscriber specific data being means for gathering the subscriber specific data indicative of subscriber preferences from a set top terminal;	2401, 2402	88:21-25 89:1-2 66:23-25 67:1-4
a means, connected to the gathering means, for storing the subscriber specific data;	2406	107:14-19 165:7-21 88:21-25 89:1-2 170:1-25 171:1-9
a memory means for storing program abstracts;	2413	163:3-20
said program selection means being means, operably connected to the receiving means and the storing means, for suggesting one or more programs using the stored subscriber specific data and the received program control information, whereby the suggested programs correspond to the subscriber's programming preferences, wherein key words are used in searching the stored program abstracts to assist in suggesting programs, and wherein the means for suggesting comprises:	2402	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23 94:2-4 122:6-25 123:1-4
a means for searching the stored program abstracts for one or more programs consisting of one or more of the key words; and	2402	122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17
a means, connected to the suggesting means, for transmitting the suggested programs to the set top terminal for presentation to the subscriber.	2405	66:15-16 66:19-20 67:1-4 92:10-16
91. The system of claim 66, being a network controller for suggesting programs to subscribers of a television program delivery system by using program control	Figs. 15, 17,	90:23-25 91:1-25

information containing program description data and by searching program abstracts for key words that are mapped from one or more subscriber responses received from a set top terminal, further comprising:	21, 2405	92:1-23
a means for storing the program abstracts in a data base;	2413	163:3-20
said means for receiving subscriber specific data comprising a means for gathering subscriber responses to a plurality of selectable entries from the set top terminal;	2401	66:1-14
a means, connected to the gathering means, for mapping the subscriber responses into the key words;	2402	122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17
a means, operably connected to the receiving means, storing means, gathering means and mapping means, for suggesting one or more programs, comprising:	2402	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23
said selecting means comprising means, connected to the storing and mapping means, for searching the program abstract data base for one or more key words; and	2412	122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17
a means for distributing the suggested programs to the set top terminal.	2402, 2404	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23 165:22-25 166:1-25 167:1-4
92. A method, comprising the steps of:		
receiving subscriber specific data;	Figs. 15, 17, 21, 2401	107:14-19 165:7-21 88:21-25 89:1-2 170:1-25 171:1-9
receiving program control information; and	2411, 2410	163:9-12 160:7-15
selecting one or more programs using the user subscriber specific information and the program control information.	2412	92:10-16 68:21-25 69:1-3
93. The method of claim 92, used by a set top terminal for a television program delivery system for suggesting programs to subscribers for display on a television using program control information and subscriber specific data, the method further comprising:	2411, 2406, Fig. 25	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23
said receiving subscriber specific data comprising gathering subscriber specific data to be used in selecting programs;	2401	88:21-25 89:1-2 66:23-25 67:1-4
storing the gathered subscriber specific data;	2406	107:14-19 165:7-21 88:21-25

		89:1-2 170:1-25 171:1-9
said receiving program control information comprising receiving program control information to be used in selecting programs;	2411, 2410	163:9-12 160:7-15
said selecting step comprising selecting one or more programs using a subscriber's programming preferences and the received program control information, wherein the subscriber programming preferences are generated from the subscriber specific data; and	1506, 1703, Fig. 21	92:10-16 68:21-25 69:1-3
suggesting the selected programs to the subscriber.	1703	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23
94. The method of claim 93, wherein a display is used and wherein the set top terminal generates menus based on menu details received over the program television delivery system further comprising the following steps:	2405	163:9-12 160:7-25 160:22-
storing the received menu details;	2413	163:19-20
generating menu screens using the stored menu details by integrating the received program control information with the stored menu details;	2407, 2405	81:5-14 167:13-25
displaying menu screens whereby the menu screens identify the selected programs; and	2405	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23
receiving subscriber responses to the displayed menu screens.	Figs. 15, 17, 2405	59:16-20 65:3-25
95. The method of claim 92, used by a set top terminal for a television program delivery system for suggesting programs to subscribers for display on a television using program control information and subscriber specific data indicative of a subscriber's programming preferences, wherein the set top terminal generates menus based on menu details received over the program television delivery system, the method comprising the following steps:	Figs. 15, 17, 21, 2405	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23
storing the received menu details;	2413	163:19-20
said receiving subscriber specific data comprising gathering subscriber specific data indicative of subscriber preferences to be used in selecting programs;	2401	165:7-21 88:21-25 89:1-2 170:1-25 171:1-9
storing the gathered subscriber specific data;	2406	165:7-21 88:21-25 89:1-2
said receiving program control information comprising receiving program control information to be used in selecting programs;	2411, 2410	88:21-25 89:1-2 66:23-25 67:1-4
said selecting step comprising selecting one or more programs using the stored	2406,	92:10-16

subscriber specific data and received program control information wherein the selected programs correspond to the subscriber's programming preferences;	2412, 2407, 1703	68:21-25 69:1-3
generating menu screens using the stored menu details by integrating the received program control information and the stored menu details;	2407, 2405	81:5-14 167:13-25 167:19-25
displaying menu screens whereby the menu screens identify the selected programs and suggest the selected programs to the subscriber; and	2405	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23
receiving subscriber responses to the menu screens.	2401, 1507, 1705	59:16-20 65:3-25
96. The method of claim 92, used by a set top terminal for a television program delivery system for suggesting programming to subscribers using program control information containing menu screen details by searching program abstracts for programs which correlate to key words mapped from one or more subscriber responses to search criteria containing a plurality of selectable entries on one or more menu screens displayed on a television, comprising the steps of:	Figs. 15, 17, 21, 2405	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23
storing the program abstracts in a database;	2413	163:3-20
storing menu screen details;	2413	81:5-14 167:13-25
generating the menu screens wherein the menu screens are generated by integrating the program control information with the stored menu screen details, and wherein the generated menu screens list the search criteria containing the plurality of selectable entries;	2407, 2402	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23 160:7-17
displaying the menu screens;	2405	66:15-16 66:19-20 67:1-4 92:10-16
said receiving subscriber specific data comprising gathering subscriber responses to the plurality of selectable entries on the menu screens;	2401	66:1-14
mapping the subscriber responses into the key words;	2402	122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17
searching the stored program abstracts for abstracts comprising one or more of the key words;	2412	122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17
said selecting step comprising selecting one or more of the programs, whereby the programs are selected using the search of the stored program abstracts; and	2407, 2412	
suggesting the selected programs.	2405, 1506, 1703	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23
97. The method of claim 92, used in a television program delivery system for suggesting programs to subscribers for display on a television using program	Figs. 15, 17,	90:23-25 91:1-25

control information and subscriber specific data, the method further comprising:	21, 2405	92:1-23
said receiving subscriber specific data comprising gathering subscriber specific data to be used in selecting programs;	2401	88:21-25 89:1-2 66:23-25 67:1-4
storing the gathered subscriber specific data;	2406	107:14-19 165:7-21 88:21-25 89:1-2 170:1-25 171:1-9
said receiving program control information comprising receiving program control information to be used in selecting programs; and	2411, 2410	163:9-12 160:7-15
said selecting step comprising selecting one or more programs using a subscriber's programming preferences and the received program control information, wherein the subscriber programming preferences are generated from the subscriber specific data; and suggesting the selected programs to the subscriber.	2406, 2412	92:10-16 68:21-25 69:1-3
98. The method of claim 92, used in a television program delivery system for suggesting programming to subscribers using program control information containing menu screen details by searching program abstracts for programs which correlate to key words mapped from one or more subscriber responses to search criteria containing a plurality of selectable entries on one or more menu screens displayed on a television, comprising the steps of:	Figs. 15, 17, 21, 2405	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23
storing the program abstracts in a database;	2413	163:3-20
storing the menu screen details;	2413	81:5-14 167:13-25
generating the menu screens wherein the menu screens are generated by integrating the received program control information with the stored menu screen details, and wherein the generated menu screens list the search criteria containing the plurality of selectable entries;	2402	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23 160:7-17
displaying the menu screens;	2405	66:15-16 66:19-20 67:1-4 92:10-16
said receiving subscriber specific data comprising gathering subscriber responses to the plurality of selectable entries on the menu screens;	2401	66:1-14
mapping the gathered subscriber responses into the key words;	2402	122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17
searching the stored program abstracts for abstracts comprising one or more of the key words;	2406, 2412	122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17
said selecting step comprising selecting one or more of the programs, whereby the programs are selected using the search of the stored program abstracts; and	2412	94:2-4 122:6-25

		123:1-4
suggesting the selected programs.	1506, 1703	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23
99. The method of claim 92, used in a television program delivery system for suggesting programming to subscribers using program control information and by searching program abstracts for programs which correlate to key words mapped from one or more subscriber responses to a plurality of presented selectable entries, comprising the steps of:	Figs. 15, 17, 21, 2405	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23
storing the program abstracts in a database;	2413	163:3-20
presenting the plurality of selectable entries;	2405	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23 160:7-17
said receiving subscriber specific data comprising gathering subscriber responses to the plurality of selectable entries;	2401	88:21-25 89:1-2 66:23-25 67:1-4
mapping the gathered subscriber responses into the key words;	2402	122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17
searching the stored program abstracts for abstracts comprising one or more of the key words;	2402, 2406, 2412	122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17
said selecting step comprising selecting one or more of the programs, whereby the programs are selected using the search of the stored program abstracts; and	2412	94:2-4 122:6-25 123:1-4
suggesting the selected programs.	1506, 1703	90:23-25 91:1-25 92:1-23
100. The method of claim 92, for suggesting programs to subscribers using program control information containing program description data, and subscriber specific data, the method comprising:	1506, 1703	66:15-25 67:1-4
said receiving subscriber specific data comprising gathering the subscriber specific data to be used in selecting programs;	2401	88:21-25 89:1-2 66:23-25 67:1-4
storing the subscriber specific data;	2406	107:14-19 165:7-21 88:21-25 89:1-2 170:1-25 171:1-9
said selecting step comprising selecting one or more programs using a subscriber's	2412,	92:10-16

programming preferences and the program control information, wherein the subscriber's programming preferences are generated from the subscriber specific data.	2406	68:21-25 69:1-3
101. A method for controlling rendering of a signal having a plurality of channels, said method comprising:		
(a) analyzing textual information decoded from a signal having a plurality of channels to determine whether channel contents of said channels are among channel contents defined by selection data; and	2414, 2608	122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17 170:10-13
(b) arbitrating display and/or record resource contentions among said analyzed channels having channel contents defined by said selection data.	2402, 2403, 2404	52:10-16
102. The method of claim 101, wherein said analyzing step comprises:		
tuning to said channels to receive said channels, and decoding textual information included with said channels; and	2502, 2505	168:1-8 122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17
pre-defining said selection data employed in said analyzing step.	2610, 2609, 2608	122:8-13
103. An apparatus for performing the method of claim 101, comprising:		
(a) one or more analyzing units for receiving textual information indicative of channel contents of said channels decoded from a communication signal, and responsive thereto, analyzing said received textual information to determine if channel contents of said channels are among channel contents defined by selection data; and	2414, 2411, 2410, 2407, 2505	168:1-8 122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17
(b) an arbitrating unit coupled to said one or more analyzing units to arbitrate display and/or record resource contentions among said analyzing units determining said channels having channel contents that are defined by said selection data.	2402, 2504	52:10-16
104. The apparatus of claim 103, for controlling selective display and/or recording of selected ones of a plurality of channels of a communication signal, wherein:	2403, 2404, 2507, 2508	66:15-25 67:1-4
said arbitrating unit includes an arbitration logic routine for arbitrating said display and/or record resource contentions, in accordance with predefined priority information of said selection data,	2402, 2504	52:10-16
the apparatus further comprising		
one or more decoding units coupled to said one or more analyzing units for providing said textual information of said channels to said analyzing units, said one or more decoding units receiving said channels of said communication signal, and in response decoding said channels for textual information included in said channels;	2504, 2414	168:1-8 122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17
one or more signal tuning units coupled to said one or more decoding units for	2502	168:1-5

providing said one or more decoding units with said channels, by tuning to said channels of said communication signal; and		
one or more buffers coupled to said one or more tuning units for storing portions of the contents of said channels of said communication signal for a predetermined duration of time.	2503	168:5-8
105. The apparatus of claim 103, wherein:		
the contents of said channels include audio/video contents, and said selection data include predefined priority of said audio/video contents;	2501	108:24-25 109:1-25 110:1-11 110:12-25 111:1-25 112:1-4
said selection data include predefined keywords and priorities of selected ones of said channels;	2414	122:6-25 123:1-4 54:5-17 160:1-6 166:21-23
said arbitrating unit automatically causes a display window for displaying the channel contents of a successful one of said arbitrating channels to be activated, amplification of audio signals associated with the activated display window to be adjusted, and/or channel contents of said successful one of said arbitrating channels to be recorded; and	2403, 2404, 2507, 2508	52:10-16 64:14-20
the apparatus further comprises		
a profile unit coupled to said one or more analyzing units for providing said one or more analyzing units with said selection data; and	2407, 2412, 2505	66:23-25 67:1-4 163:12-15 166:14-20 62:4-10 66:23-25 53:21-25 54:1-2 66:21-25
one or more recorders for recording channel contents of successful ones of said arbitrating channels; and	2403, 2508	64:14-20 109:5-15
one more decoders coupled to said one or more analyzers for providing said textual information of said channels to said one or more analyzers, said one or more decoders receiving said channels of said signal, and in response decoding said channels for textual information included in said channels.	2504, 2414	122:6-25 123:1-4
106. The apparatus of claim 103, being a computer system having a bus for communicating information, and a signal processing unit coupled to said bus for processing a signal having a plurality of channels.	2504	168:3-5
107. The apparatus of claim 103, being a communication network system, further comprising:		

(a) a communication network interface to communicate in said communication network system;	2501	168:3-5 193:3-5
(b) a communication network server coupled to said communication network interface to receive a signal having a plurality of channels; said communication network server to generate a stream of decoded texts indicative of channel contents of said channels, responsive to said channels;	2504, 2414	168:1-5 163:9-12 54:12-17 122:16-24
said communication network server comprising:		
(b.1) one or more tuners to tune to said channels;	2502	170:10-13
(b.2) one or more decoders coupled to said one or more tuners to receive said channels, and to generate said decoded texts indicative of channel contents of said channels;	2504	173:12-14
(b.3) one or more buffers coupled to said one or more tuners to temporarily store portions of the channel contents of said channels for a predetermined duration of time; and	2503	168:5-10
(b.4) a server interface coupled to said buffers and said decoders to couple said communication network server to said communication network interface; and	2504- 2505, 2506, 2507	171:1-6
(c) a client computer system coupled to said communication network interface to receive said channels and said decoded texts from said network server, encompassing said analyzing units and said arbitrating unit, to analyze said received decoded texts to determine if channel contents of said channels are among channel contents defined by selection data, and to arbitrate display and/or record resource contentions among analyzed channels with channel contents that are defined by the selection data,	2506	52:10-16
said client computer system comprising:		
(c.1) an analyzer coupled to said communication network interface to perform said analysis; and	1505	66:21-22
(c.2) an arbitration unit coupled to said analyzer to perform said arbitration.	1502	52:10-16
108. A method of classifying a pattern, said method comprising the steps of:		
acquiring a signal, said signal including an input pattern to be classified;	2201	108:24-25 109:1-2
sampling the acquired signal to produce an intermediate pattern based on said signal;	2202, 2210	109:2-5
performing a transform on at least a portion of said intermediate pattern, said transform being from the group consisting of wavelet transforms and wavelet packet transforms, to produce a wavelet transformed pattern;	2211	109:5-9
selecting a reduced feature space from the wavelet transformed pattern; and	2204	109:10-12
classifying said input pattern on the basis of said reduced feature space.	2207	109:12-20
109. The method as claimed in claim 108, wherein said step of classifying said pattern on the basis of said reduced feature space comprises the step of classifying a target on the basis of said selected reduced feature space.	2206, 2207, 2208	109:15-25
110. An apparatus for performing the method of claim 104, comprising;		108:24-25

means for acquiring a signal, said signal including an input pattern to be classified;	2201	108:25 109:1-2
means for sampling the acquired signal to produce an intermediate pattern based on said signal;	2202, 2210	109:2-3
means for performing a transform on at least a portion of said intermediate pattern, said transform being from the group consisting of wavelet transforms and wavelet packet transforms to produce a wavelet transformed pattern;	2211	117:16-25
means for selecting a reduced feature space from the wavelet transformed pattern; and	2204	108:24-25 109:1-15
means for classifying said input pattern on the basis of said reduced feature space.	2207	109:15-25 110:1-11
111. An apparatus as claimed in claim 110, wherein said means for performing a transform on at least a portion of the intermediate pattern comprises means for performing a wavelet transform on a selected subset of the intermediate pattern.	2205, 2612	117:16-25
112. An apparatus as claimed in claim 110, wherein said means for classifying said pattern on the basis of said reduced feature space comprises means for classifying a target on the basis of said selected reduced feature space.	2204, 2407, 2505, 2607	21:6-9

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